

Short Biography of Ronald Ross

Sir Ronald Ross (1857-1932) was a British physician and entomologist, noted for identifying the links between mosquitoes and malaria.

Ronald Ross was born in India in 1857 at Almora. His father was a soldier who eventually became a general in the Indian army. When he left school his father suggested he went on to study medicine. Ross readily agreed as he had no idea of what he wanted to do. So, in 1874 he became a medical student at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London. In 1879 Ross just managed to pass his Royal College of Surgeons exam – after 3 days of cramming. This meant that he could only practice as a ship's surgeon, which he did for a couple of years until he passed an exam for the Society of Apothecaries. This meant that in 1881 Ross could join the British-Indian army medical services and eleven years later he began investigating the transmission and control of malaria.